## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /098 W

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R 012245Z SEP 75 FM USMISSION USUN NY TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1645 INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UNGA SF

SUBJ: 7TH SPECIAL SESSION: CREDENTIALS

- 1. AT OPENING OF 7TH SPECIAL SESSION THIS MORNING, SEPTEMBER 1, PRESIDENT-ELECT BOUTEFLIKA FOLLOWED RECENT SPECIAL SESSION PRECEDENT BY PROPOSING THAT CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE APPOINTED DURING 29TH GA LAST FALL SHOULD SERVE FOR THE 7TH SS. THIS WAS AGREED WITHOUT OBJECTION.
- 2. WE HAD LEARNED THAT BOUTEFLIKA HAD EARLIER CONSIDERED OBVIATING THE TRADITIONAL CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE PROCESS AT 7TH SS BY PROPOSING THAT CREDENTIALS DECISIONS TAKEN BY 29TH GA SHOULD APPLY AS WELL TO THE 7TH SS. THIS WOULD HAVE HAD THE EFFECT OF IMPORTING INTO THE CURRENT SESSION THE 29TH GA'S DECISION TO SUSPEND SOUTH AFRICA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE GA. THE EC-9 AND WE THUS PREPARED TO REAFFIRM OUT OBJECTIONS BUT THIS PROVED UNNECESSARY. FOR WHATEVER REASONS BOUTEFLIKA DID NOT TAKE THIS ACTION. UN LEGAL COUNSEL SUY TOLD US HE HAD ADVISED BOUTEFLIKA THAT THERE WOULD BE NO LEGAL BASIS FOR THUS OVERRIDING CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE PROCESS.
- 3. IN THIS BRIEF STATEMENT CONCERNING THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE, BOUTEFLIKA DREW THE 7TH SS'S ATTENTION TO THE SECRETARY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GENERAL'S THIRD-PERSON 15 AUGUST NOTE (OUR A-1074) WHICH

TAKES THE POSITION CUSTOMARY IN SPECIAL SESSION CONTEXTS. THAT NO NEW CREDENTIALS FOR 7TH SS WILL BE NEEDED BY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES ACCREDITED BY THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO REPRESENT THEM AT ALL SESSIONS OF THE GA. SINCE THE SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE HAS BEEN THUS BROADLY AUTHORIZED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT, QUESTIONS CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICAN CREDENTIALS COULD BE RAISED IN THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE IN CONSIDERING THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S NOTE NOTWITHSTANDING SOUTH AFRICAN ABSENCE FOR THE 7TH SS. HOWEVER, WE HAVE SEEN NO EVIDENCE OF A DESIRE TO RAISE THIS MATTER IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CURRENT TWO-WEEK SS AND BELIEVE THAT AFRICAN AND OTHER LIKE-MINDED MEMBERS OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MAY CONTENT THEMSELVES WITH INSERTING IN THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT MENTION OF THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE 29TH GA'S SUSPENSION OF SOUTH AFRICA. IN THIS CASE, THERE WOULD BE NO NEED AT THE SS FOR THE PLENARY TO TAKE ACTION ON ANY ASPECT OF SOUTH AFRICAN CREDENTIALS. NEVERTHELESS, A GRATUITOUS REFERENCE BY BOUTEFLIKA TO THE 29TH GA SUSPENSION CANNOT, OF COURSE, BE EXCLUDED. MOYNIHAN

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 01 SEP 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975 USUNN03930

Document Number: 1975USUNN03930 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750302-0050 From: USUN NEW YORK Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750993/aaaadepc.tel Line Count: 80

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION IO

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: greeneet

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags Review Date: 02 JUL 2003

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by greeneet>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: 7TH SPECIAL SESSION: CREDENTIALS TAGS: PFOR, OCON, SF, UNGA To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006